



S. Stevenson  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Patrick C. Chou et al. Art Unit : Unknown  
Serial No. : 09/785,039 Examiner : Unknown  
Filed : February 15, 2001  
Title : COMPENSATING POLARIZATION MODE DISPERSION IN FIBER OPTIC  
TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 3, 5, 25 and 27.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical compensating apparatus comprising:

a polarization controller configured to receive an optical signal propagating through an optical medium, determine the principal states of polarization of the optical medium, determine a magnitude of time delay between the principle states of polarization, and transform the optical properties of the optical signal based on the principal states of polarization, wherein the polarization controller comprises a central processing unit programmed to monitor the time averaged state of polarization of the optical signal and determine the principle states of polarization of the optical medium and the magnitude of time delay between the principle states of polarization based on the time averaged state of polarization.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

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April 25, 2001

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